Radio Communications System on Northern Railway

3328. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has a proposal to establish a mobile radio communication system between Delhi and some other stations in Northern Railway;

(b) if, so, the amount earmarked for implementing that proposal; and

(c) The names of different stations proposed to be connected with mobile radio communication network during eighth plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir. On New Delhi-Mughalsarai Section.

(b) Rs. 15.37 crores.

(c) The Eighth Plan proposals are not yet finalised.

[*English*]

Reservation of Jobs for Sportsmen

3329. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is reservation for sportsmen in various Central Government departments and undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to encourage sportsmen by offering them jobs in such departments and undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c). Appointments to meritorious Sports persons can be made in relaxation of the Recruitment Rules to any post in Group 'C' or Group 'D' in Central Government, where under the Recruitment Rules the post is required of permitted to be filled in by direct recruitment otherwise than through Union Public Service Commission. This is subject to the provision that in any year these including all other reservations under existing orders do not exceed 50% of the total number of vacancies proposed to be filled by direct recruitment. A committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports has been set up to go into the question of providing incentives for sports persons in employment and the Committee will be submitting its report shortly.

Assistance for Project Elephant Scheme

3330. SHRI M.V.V. MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released financial assistance to State Governments under the Project Elephant Scheme during the last two year;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Elephant Project Scheme has been approved only during the current financial